



In the Gospel of Matthew we find the story of how the Spirit drove Jesus into the desert after his baptism. There, he prayed and fasted for 40 days, and was tempted by the Devil. As a way to prepare for Easter, and as a way to symbolize Jesus' journey into the desert, the church celebrates the season of Lent. Typically, this 40 day season is a time of prayer and self-denial. Often, people "give up" something for Lent, or take on a spiritual practice.

Our experience of Lent will begin this Wednesday night, March 1, at 7:00pm when we hold our Ash Wednesday service. The service will be in the Life center and feature music from the Chancel choir, and the imposition of ashes. These ashes, which are made by burning palm leaves from last year's Palm Sunday celebration, remind us that our lives, and our deaths, are understood only through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

The theme of worship, and of our season of Lent this year is "40 Days of Good News." On Wednesday night, and again next Sunday, you will receive a pocket calendar which is designed to remind you to watch for the Good News throughout the season of Lent. Intentional prayer, acts of service, study, and worship will also be part of our Lenten journey this year.

I do hope that you will join us for worship on Wednesday night at 7:00pm for Ash Wednesday service. Furthermore, I hope that you will make plans to join a Bible study during Lent, or that you will find a Sunday school class, or simply take the opportunity to focus on your spiritual life over these 40 days.

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Scott

February 26, 2017

CENTRAL TO LIFE





### SERMON SERIES

“PILGRIMAGE”

CLASSIC SERVICE

8:30am & 11:00am

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

1:00pm



**PANCAKE DINNER**  
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH  
 5-7PM IN THE LIFE CENTER  
 LET'S CELEBRATE SHROVE TUESDAY!  
 JOIN US FOR A PLETHORA OF PANCAKES,  
 AND FELLOWSHIP TIME.  
 EVERYONE IS INVITED!



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH  
 7:00PM IN THE LIFE CENTER



### COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Be looking for the CUMC Monthly Newsletter. The newsletter is published the first of each month and will be emailed to you. Stop by the Welcome Desk in the gathering area to fill out a card with your contact information.  
 For comments or questions, please email the Communication Team at [communicationsteam@centraltolife.org](mailto:communicationsteam@centraltolife.org), or call us at 268-1009.



### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

The season of Lent is nearly upon us. Please make plans to join Pastor Scott's Lenten Bible study on Wednesday nights during Lent. This study will combine study of the book of James, musical selections from a Requiem, and Holy Communion. The study will take place on **Wednesday nights, beginning March 8, at 5:15pm.** If you have questions please ask Pastor Scott.



### CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women Book Club will meet next on **March 8, 2017, at 2:00 pm** in the Conference Room at the church. The book for discussion is *The Road to Character* by David Brooks. *Women of all ages are welcome.*

**IS CHURCH HAPPENING?**  
 Tune in to Channel 7 news or check out the website for weather related updates.  
 -CUMC follows APS Monday-Friday Schedule-

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Scott Sharp**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Kelly Brooks**, Executive Pastor  
**Rev. Janet Norden**, Associate Pastor  
**Scott Zila**, Building Superintendent  
**Jerri Foster**, Director of Music Ministries

**Michele Humes**, Office Manager  
**Kathy Gough**, Office Assistant  
**Jesus Valdez**, Media Coordinator  
**Rick Wild**, Organist  
**Alesha Bird**, ASL Interpreter



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 201 University Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 (505) 243-7834 [www.centraltolife.org](http://www.centraltolife.org)  
 Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm